

1. A bracket for supporting an elongated rail with respect to a post having an
2 attachment surface, the rail having an end, the bracket comprising:
 - 3 a bracket body having a rail supporting portion and an attachment portion, the
4 bracket body having an abutment surface, the bracket body having an installed position
5 wherein the abutment surface is positioned against the attachment surface of the post;
 - 6 the rail supporting portion having an opening defined therein for receiving the end
7 of the rail when the bracket body is in the installed position, the opening having a central
8 axis;
 - 9 the attachment portion having a first surface forming at least part of the abutment
10 surface of the body and a second surface spaced therefrom, a fastener receiving passage
11 defined from the first surface to the second surface, the passage formed by a first bore
12 extending from the first surface part way to the second surface and a second bore
13 extending part way from the second surface to the first surface, the first and second bores
14 interconnecting to define the passage, the first and second bores each having central axes
15 that are generally parallel to the central axis of the opening in the rail supporting portion,
16 the first bore having a first width and the second bore having a second width, an offset
17 dimension defined as half the difference between the first width and the second width, the
18 central axis of the first bore being offset from the central axis of the second bore by a
19 distance greater than the offset dimension such that a fastener extending through the
20 passage is guided into an position that is angled with respect to the central axis of the
opening in the rail supporting portion.

2. The bracket according to claim 1, wherein the central axes are each
2 generally perpendicular to the abutment surface.

3. The bracket according to claim 1, wherein the central axis of the first bore
2 is offset from the central axis of the second bore in a direction generally perpendicular to
the central axis of the opening in the rail supporting portion.

4. The bracket according to claim 3, wherein the central axis of the first bore
2 is closer to the central axis of the opening than the central axis of the second bore is to the
central axis of the opening.

5. The bracket according to claim 1, wherein the first width is greater than
2 the second width.

6. The bracket according to claim 1, wherein the bores are each generally
2 cylindrical.

7. The bracket according to claim 1, wherein the attachment portion is a first
2 attachment portion, the bracket further comprising a second attachment portion
substantially symmetrical to the first attachment portion.

8. The bracket according to claim 1, wherein the first and second bores
2 interconnect at a connection opening, the connection opening being biconvex.

9. The bracket according to claim 1, wherein the bracket is integrally formed
2 by molding.

10. A bracket for supporting an elongated rail with respect to a post having an
2 attachment surface, the rail having an end, the bracket comprising:

a bracket body having a rail supporting portion and an attachment portion, the
4 bracket body having an abutment surface, the bracket body having an installed position
wherein the abutment surface is positioned against the attachment surface of the post;

6 the rail supporting portion having an opening defined therein for receiving the end
of the rail when the bracket body is in the installed position, the opening having a central
8 axis;

the attachment portion having a first surface forming at least part of the abutment
10 surface of the body and a second surface spaced therefrom, a fastener receiving passage
defined from the first surface to the second surface, the passage formed by a first bore
12 extending from the first surface part way to the second surface and a second bore
extending part way from the second surface to the first surface, the first and second bores
14 interconnecting to define the passage, the first and second bores each having central axes
that are generally parallel to the central axis of the opening in the rail supporting portion,
16 the central axis of the first bore being offset from the central axis of the second bore such

that a fastener extending through the passage is urged into a position that is angled with
18 respect to the central axis of the opening in the rail supporting portion.

11. The bracket according to claim 10 wherein the central axes are each
2 generally perpendicular to the abutment surface.

12. The bracket according to claim 10, wherein the central axis of the first
2 bore is offset from the central axis of the second bore in a direction generally
perpendicular to the central axis of the opening in the rail supporting portion.

13. The bracket according to claim 12, wherein the central axis of the first
2 bore is closer to the central axis of the opening than the central axis of the second bore is
to the central axis of the opening.

14. The bracket according to claim 10, wherein the first bore has a width
2 greater than a width of the second bore.

15. The bracket according to claim 10, wherein the bores are each generally
2 cylindrical.

16. The bracket according to claim 10, wherein the attachment portion is a
2 first attachment portion, the bracket further comprising a second attachment portion
substantially symmetrical to the first attachment portion.

17. The bracket according to claim 10, wherein the first and second bores
2 interconnect at a connection opening, the connection opening being biconvex.

18. The bracket according to claim 10, wherein the bracket is integrally
2 formed by molding.

19. An attachment member for attaching to an attachment surface, the
2 attachment member comprising:

a body having an abutment surface, the body having an installed position wherein
4 the abutment surface is positioned against the attachment surface, a perpendicular axis
being defined as perpendicular to the abutment surface;

6 the body having an outer surface spaced from the abutment surface, a fastener
receiving passage defined from the outer surface to the abutment surface, the passage
8 formed by a first bore extending from the abutment surface part way to the outer surface
and a second bore extending part way from the outer surface to the abutment surface, the
10 first and second bores interconnecting to define the passage, the first and second bores
each having central axes that are generally parallel to the perpendicular axis, the first bore
12 having a first width and the second bore having a second width, an offset dimension

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- defined as half the difference between the first width and the second width, the central
- 14 axis of the first bore being offset from the central axis of the second bore by a distance
- greater than the offset dimension such that a fastener extending through the passage is
- 16 guided into an position that is angled with respect to the perpendicular axis.